GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1184
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2016
Registration of Newspapers
Sarania Shri Naba Kumar

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of newspapers weekly, fortnightly and monthly registered, State-wise and the details thereof;

(b) the number of newspapers that receive advertisements from DAVP out of them along with the details thereof;

(c) the number of newspapers out of these which have deposited the annual reports and the details thereof with names;

(d) the number of such newspapers/magazines whose owner/editor is the same person and the details thereof;

(e) the number of newspapers whose owners/editors have been issued PIB cards and the details thereof with names; and

(f) whether any special concessions have been given to the newspapers or magazines published, State-wise by DAVP and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING {COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}

(a) The details of the total number of newspapers weekly, fortnightly and monthly registered State-wise for the year 2014-15 is placed at Annexure-I.

(b) and (c) Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP), the nodal multi-media agency for release of Central Government advertisements issues advertisement only to those newspapers/journals which are on its approved panel which is available on DAVP's website, i.e. www.davp.nic.in under head 'Newspapers' and sub-head 'Publishers on Panel'.

As per clause 15 (note 2) of Print Media Advertisement Policy − 2016, all empanelled publications must submit a copy of annual return submitted to Office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) with receiving proof from RNI for the previous financial year, in the month of September every year, failing which the newspaper can be suspended by DG, DAVP.

Ãs on 22.11.2016, total 8317 Newspapers/journals are on approved panel of DAVP. They are required to provide a copy of Annual Return submitted to RNI, at the time of empanelment /rate renewal with DAVP.

(d) The information regarding publication units under common ownership is available in Chapter-5 (page no-75-340) of 'Press in India' 2014-15 which can be accessed on RNI website on the link: http://rni.nic.in/pin2014_15/pin-05.pdf

(e) Press Information Bureau (PIB) card is not issued on the basis of ownership. So far, 76 cards have been issued to print media in the editor category in the year 2016. The list is attached at Annexure-II.

(f) Clause 8 of 'The Print Media Advertisement Policy of the Government of India - 2016' with effect from 7.6.2016 provides relaxation in eligibility criteria for newspapers/journals published in J&K, Andaman & Nicobar islands and North Eastern States. They can be considered for empanelment after 6 months of regular and uninterrupted publication. In the case of all regional and other language small & medium newspapers, the qualifying period is 12 months.

Further, Clause 10 of the above policy stipulates that a newspaper/journal should have a minimum paid circulation of not less than 2000 copies for being considered eligible for empanelment. However, newspapers/journals published in J&K, Andaman & Nicobar islands and North-Eastern States need to have substantiated minimum paid circulation of only 500 copies per publishing day.

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